

GNOSALL DISTRICT COUNCIL.
REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1904.

In the following table will be found the birth rates and death rates as compared with the average for the District of eight preceding years:—

	1904.	Average of eight preced- ing years.
Deaths per 1,000 of popula- tion	11.4	12.5
Births per 1,000 of population	27.6	24.2
Deaths from Zymotic Dis- eases per 1,000 of population	0.6	0.9
Deaths of infants under one year per 1,000 Births regis- tered	115.	99.

The death rate at all ages is below the average for the District, but the death rate of infants under one year of age is considerably above the average. No special cause can be given for this, except that diseases of the respiratory organs were more prevalent in children than usual during the early part of the year, and to this several deaths of infants were due.

The deaths from zymotic diseases numbered three only, being one from Scarlet Fever, one from Whooping Cough, and one from Diarrhoea.

Table No. IV., which accompanies this report, gives the number of deaths in each parish in the district, and also states the causes of death.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.—The number of these occurring in the district throughout the year is shewn in the following table:—

	Scarlet Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipe- las.
Number of houses infected	34	1	1
Number of cases...	68	1	1
Number of deaths	1	0	0

There has again been an unusually large number of Scarlet Fever cases in the district, principally in the parishes of Adbaston and High Offley, with towards the end of the year a few cases in Moreton, in the parish of Gnosall. In Adbaston the school was closed on Dec. 7th, 1903, owing to an outbreak of this disease, and, having been disinfected in the meantime, was re-opened after the Christmas holidays, as it was considered that the last notification having been received on the 12th, the epidemic might be confined at the houses known to be infected at that date. No sooner, however, was the school re-opened, than a fresh series of cases commenced, and, on further enquiry, it was found that several cases had occurred in children whose parents had not taken any steps in notifying the presence of illness in their families. Owing to this fresh outbreak, the school was re-closed on January 20th, and remained closed until March 20th. During this time the infection spread into the adjoining parish of High Offley, and here again all cases that were heard of were isolated at home, as far as possible, with the result that up to the beginning of the school holidays in August, only three houses were known to have been infected. Immediately however, on the re-

opening of High Offley School, after the holidays, the notifying of fresh cases, and on visiting the school I found that two children, whose cases had not been notified, had returned to school, and apparently started a fresh outbreak. In this, and the epidemics started in Adbaston school in a somewhat similar manner, in January, the majority of the cases notified throughout the year occurred, and it seems evident, as I have previously reported, that if the necessity of notification were more stringently enforced, that a lesser number of cases would have been recorded for the year. I might add, as a further proof of this, that the same two children already mentioned were nearly the cause of another outbreak in October in Adbaston school, as, shortly after their being sent home from High Offley school, the children in the next cottage, who were attending Adbaston school, became infected, in my opinion through them, as there were no other cases at that time, except these, anywhere near; and no other source of infection could be traced. Fortunately, however, a medical man was called in to the first case, and as the whole of the family was, on this occasion, carefully isolated, the infection did not spread beyond the children in the house, though all of these were, in turn, infected.

The following is a summary of the sanitary work done in the sanitary inspector's department throughout the year:—

	Inspected.	Formal notices by Nuisances Authority.	Abated.
Dwellinghouses in foul condition	2	0	2
Dwellinghouses overcrowded	1	0	1
Slaughter houses	1	1	1
Canal Boats	24	0	0
House Drains	9	6	6
Water Supply	9	0	9
Samples of water taken for analysis			4
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease			18
Schools, ditto, ditto			2

For a district comprising about 1,000 inhabited houses, this is a somewhat meagre account of work done; and, from personal observations made in various parts of the district, I consider that if anything like a systematic inspection of dwellinghouses were made from time to time, that a great improvement might be made in their sanitary condition.

Water Supply and Sewerage.—These still remain in urgent need of attention, as for all practical purposes their condition has not advanced during the year.


The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.—This district being an agricultural one, nothing necessitating attention under this Act has been noted throughout the year. The bakehouses are in a satisfactory condition.

Herewith I append the usual tabular statements of sickness and mortality for the year.—I remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant.

R. S. STEELE, M.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Gnosall, Feb. 28th, 1905.



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VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1904 AND PREVIOUS YEARS: GNOSALL RURAL.

1896: Population estimated to middle of each year, 4,980. Births: Number, 115; rate, 22.8. Total Deaths Registered in the District: Under 1 year of age: Number, 4; rate per 1,000 births registered, 78; At all ages: Number, 61; rate, 12.1.

1897: Population, 5,008. Births, 138; rate, 27.6. Total deaths under 1 year of age, 5; rate per 1,000, 36. Total deaths at all ages 79; rate, 15.8.

1898: Population, 5,020. Births, 111; rate, 22.0. Total deaths under 1 year of age, 10; rate per 1,000, 90. Total deaths at all ages 55; rate, 10.9.

1899: Population, 5,014. Births, 121; rate, 24.1. Total deaths under 1 year of age, 15; rate per 1,000, 125. Total deaths at all ages 69; rate, 13.4.

1900: Population, 5,020. Births, 109; rate, 21.5. Total deaths under 1 year of age, 13; rate per 1,000, 110. Total deaths at all ages, 60; rate, 11.9.

1901: Population, 4,707. Births, 116; rate, 24.6. Total deaths under 1 year of age, 16; rate per 1,000, 137. Total deaths at all ages, 57; rate, 12.1.

1902: Population, 4,700. Births, 129; rate, 27.4. Total deaths under 1 year of age, 15; rate per 1,000, 116. Total deaths at all ages, 75; rate, 15.9.

1903: Population, 4,700. Births, 127; rate, 27.2. Total Deaths under 1 year of age, 13; rate per 1,000, 102. Total deaths at all ages, 58; rate, 12.3.

Averages for years 1896-1903: Population, 4,893. Births, 120; rate, 24.2. Total Deaths under 1 year of age, 11; rate per 1,000, 99. Total deaths at all ages, 64; rate, 12.5.

1904: Population, 4,700. Births, 130; rate, 27.6. Total deaths under 1 year of age, 15; rate per 1,000, 115. Total deaths at all ages, 54; rate, 11.4.

Area of district in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 26,083. Total population at all ages, 4,707; number of inhabited houses, 1,015; average number of persons per house, 4.1. (At Census of 1901.)

VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1904 AND PREVIOUS YEARS: GNOSALL RURAL.

Gnosall.—1898: Population estimated to middle of each year, 2100; births registered, 63; deaths at all ages, 22; deaths under 1 year, 4. 1899: Population, 2,100; births, 52; deaths at all ages, 31; deaths under 1 year, 5. 1900: Population, 2,106; births, 42; deaths at all ages, 19; deaths under 1 year, 4. 1901: Population, 2,047; births, 56; deaths at all ages, 33; deaths under 1 year, 9. 1902: Population, 2,050; births, 49; deaths at all ages, 30; deaths under one year, 1. 1903: Population, 2,050; births, 53; deaths at all ages, 33; deaths under 1 year, 5. Averages of years 1894 to 1903: Population, 2,075; births, 52; deaths at all ages, 28; deaths under 1 year, 5. 1904: Population, 2,050; births, 52; deaths at all ages, 25; deaths under 1 year, 6.

Adbaston.—1898: Population, 570; births, 10; deaths at all ages, 12; deaths under 1 year, 2. 1899: Population, 570; births, 22; deaths at all ages, 14; deaths under 1 year, 5. 1900: Population, 570; births, 16; deaths at all ages, 9; deaths under 1 year, 1. 1901: Population, 533; births,

18; deaths at all ages, 7; deaths under 1 year, 3. 1902: Population, 530; births, 24; deaths at all ages, 6; deaths under 1 year, 2. 1903: Population, 530; births, 15; deaths at all ages, 5; deaths under 1 year, 2. Averages of years 1894 to 1903: Population, 550; births, 17; deaths at all ages, 8; deaths under 1 year, 2. 1904: Population, 530; births, 19; deaths at all ages, 10; deaths under 1 year, 3.

High Offley.—1898: Population, 790; births, 14; deaths at all ages, 7; deaths under 1 year, 0. 1899: Population, 790; births, 11; deaths at all ages, 11; deaths under 1 year, 2. 1900: Population, 790; births, 20; deaths at all ages, 15; deaths under 1 year, 7. 1901: Population, 627; births, 9; deaths at all ages, 4; deaths under 1 year, 1. 1902: Population, 620; births, 20; deaths at all ages, 11; deaths under 1 year, 4. 1903: Population, 620; births, 23; deaths at all ages, 6; deaths under 1 year, 2. Averages of years 1894 to 1903: Population, 706; births, 16; deaths at all ages, 8; deaths under 1 year, 2. 1904: Population, 620; births, 18; deaths at all ages, 6; deaths under 1 year, 2.

Norbury.—1898: Population, 370; births, 8; deaths at all ages, 2; deaths under 1 year, 1. 1899: Population, 370; births, 8; deaths at all ages, 5; deaths under 1 year, 2. 1900: Population, 340; births, 10; deaths at all ages, 3; deaths under 1 year, 1. 1901: Population, 383; births, 14; deaths at all ages, 3; deaths under 1 year, 2. 1902: Population, 383; births, 9; deaths at all ages, 3; deaths under 1 year, 0. 1903: Population, 383; births, 8; deaths at all ages, 1; deaths under 1 year, 0. Averages of years 1894 to 1903: Population, 373; births, 9; deaths at all ages, 2; deaths under 1 year, 1. 1904: Population, 383; births, 15; deaths at all ages, 4; deaths under 1 year, 1.

Forton.—1898: Population, 578; births, 8; deaths at all ages, 4; deaths under 1 year, 0. 1899: Population, 578; births, 10; deaths at all ages, 3; deaths under 1 year, 1. 1900: Population, 578; births, 8; deaths at all ages, 8; deaths under 1 year, 0. 1901: Population, 520; births, 8; deaths at all ages, 4; deaths under 1 year, 0. 1902: Population, 520; births, 14; deaths at all ages, 17; deaths under 1 year, 2. 1903: Population, 520; births, 9; deaths at all ages, 3; deaths under 1 year, 1. Averages of years 1894 to 1903: Population, 549; births, 9; deaths at all ages, 6; deaths under 1 year, 0.6. 1904: Population, 520; births, 13; deaths at all ages, 4; deaths under 1 year, 2.

Church Eaton.—1893: Population, 616; births, 8; deaths at all ages, 8; deaths under 1 year, 3. 1899: Population, 616; births, 18; deaths at all ages, 5; deaths under 1 year, 1. 1900: Population, 616; births, 13; deaths at all ages, 6; deaths under 1 year, 0. 1901: Population, 597; births, 11; deaths at all ages, 6; deaths under 1 year, 1. 1902: Population, 597; births, 13; deaths at all ages, 8; deaths under one year, 0. 1903: Population, 597; births, 19; deaths at all ages, 10; deaths under 1 year, 3. Averages of years 1894 to 1903: Population, 605; births, 13; deaths at all ages, 7; deaths under 1 year, 1. 1904: Population, 597; births, 13; deaths at all ages, 5; deaths under 1 year, 1.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1904:
GNOSALL RURAL.

Notifiable Disease.—Cases notified in whole district at all ages: Erysipelas, 1; Scarlet Fever, 68; Puerperal Fever, 1.

Total Cases notified in each Locality.—Gnosall: Scarlet Fever, 14; Puerperal Fever, 1. Adbaston: Scarlet Fever, 30. High Offley: Erysipelas, 1; Scarlet Fever, 24.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1904. GNOSALL RURAL.

Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.—Scarlet Fever: All ages, 1; 5 and under 15, 1. Whooping-cough: All ages, 1; under 1 year, 1. Diarrhœa: All ages, 1; under 1 year, 1. Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis): All ages, 1; 25 and under 65, 1. Other tubercular diseases: All ages, 5; under 1 year, 2; 1 and under 5, 2; 5 and under 15, 1. Cancer, malignant disease: All ages, 6; 25 and under 65, 4; 65 and upwards, 2. Bronchitis: All ages, 2; 65 and upwards, 2. Pneumonia: All ages, 7; under 1 year, 4; 1 and under 5, 1; 5 and under 15, 1; 65 and upwards, 1. Other diseases of Respiratory organs: All ages, 1; 65 and upwards, 1. Premature birth: All ages 2; under 1 year, 2. Heart Diseases: All ages, 4; 5 and under 15, 1; 25 and under 65, 1; 65 and upwards, 2. Accidents: All ages, 2; under 1 year, 1; 5 and under 15, 1. All other causes: All ages, 21; under 1 year, 4; 1 and under 5, 1; 5 and under 15, 1; 25 and under 65, 5; 65 and upwards, 10. All causes: All ages, 54; under 1 year, 15; 1 and under 5, 4; 5 and under 15, 6; 25 and under 65, 11; 65 and upwards, 18.

Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.—Gnosall: Other tubercular diseases, 1; Cancer, malignant disease, 5; Bronchitis, 2; Pneumonia, 4; Premature birth, 1; Heart diseases, 3; all other causes, 9; all causes, 25. Adbaston: Diarrhœa, 1; Other diseases of Respiratory organs, 1; Premature birth, 1; Heart diseases, 1; All other causes, 6; All causes, 10. High Offley: Scarlet Fever, 1; Other tubercular diseases, 2; Pneumonia, 1; All other causes, 2; All causes, 6. Norbury: Other tubercular diseases, 1; Cancer, malignant disease, 1; Accidents, 2; All causes, 4. Forton: Whooping-cough, 1; Other tubercular diseases, 1; All other causes, 2; All causes, 4. Church Eaton: Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis): 1; Pneumonia, 2; All other causes, 2; All causes, 5.

